



The Law Offices of Marc L. Shapiro, P.A.

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THE FUTURE IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT

BE DETERMINED AND INSTILL GOOD HABITS

College can be an intimidating place, but it is also an incredibly exciting time in one's life. There are so many fun things to do in college, and it's easy to get caught up in all of that with so much freedom on your hands.

When I went off to college, I learned that you had to have self-discipline. It gives you the power and inner strength to follow through with whatever you set your mind to. It's so important to set schedules, like when you're taking the time to study or when you're actually completing work to keep yourself on track. It allows you to build a framework that helps instill good habits.

Getting in with the right crowds was also important when I went to college. If you surround yourself with people who prioritize having fun and partying, it's really hard to break away from it. But if you get into a good group of friends who are like-minded and have studying be a part of their routine, it will eventually rub off on you.

I went off to law school and graduated college with honors because I surrounded myself with people who *wanted* to study and had good habits. Don't get me wrong, there's always something more fun to do with friends than studying. But it's a matter of remembering what your purposes are and finding that balance between school and social life.

Even in law school, very few people failed out, but there were a lot who dropped out because they couldn't find that balance. Nothing seemed conceptually difficult, but some things took *a lot* of work. Certain students weren't used to being disciplined and having to devote that much time to a subject.

Back when I wrestled in high school, there were plenty of things that I didn't want to do but did in order to get better. Some practices were harder than others, but I still attended. When we had to cut weight, I'd be eating an orange while everyone else ate pizza and ice cream sandwiches. Did I really want to eat just an orange? Of course not, but I did because it was a part of my training. Just like any sport, you have to practice to get better. You can't just show up to the games expecting to play when you never put in the work or attended the practices.

The same goes for studying. When you prioritize that and create good habits, you'll find that there is plenty of time to dedicate to having fun with your friends and enjoying the college experience. It's not always easy, there will be times when you just don't want to do something or it's too hard — but you have to do it to be successful later in life.

At the time, I didn't really know it would help me in academics, but I think when you get to college it's not all just about that. Some people are really smart in high school but don't do well in school later, and others who didn't do great in high school may thrive, but I think it's more than just being smart or understanding concepts. It's about determination and self-discipline, knowing what you have to do, and setting time aside for that.

Marc L. Shapiro



Soak in the Sun With No Worries

PROTECT YOUR BELONGINGS

The best part of summer vacation is definitely spending time at the beach. It's a great place to relax while soaking in the sun and dipping your toes in the water. One thing that can be a hassle, though, is protecting your valuables. With so much traffic on the sand, it's an easy place for someone to scoop up a bag or snag a phone that's sitting on a towel. Here are a few helpful tips to keep your valuables safe while you enjoy the beach.

The Pros of the Lifeguard Tower

Something as simple as sitting near a lifeguard tower can deter potential thieves. Since lifeguards have a clear view of the area, they'll be able to spot suspicious-looking people who are creeping too close to your belongings. If there isn't a tower nearby, consider sitting near a pier. Your items are less likely to be stolen where there are more witnesses.

Waterproof Accessories

Who says you can't be stylish on the beach? Wearing a waterproof waist pouch or carrying a waterproof dry bag can create a greater sense of security. Knowing your valuables are right there floating with you

can ease your mind. You could even bury your waterproof bag in the sand for extra protection.

Disguising Valuables

One great way to hide smaller valuables, like keys or cash, is to disguise them in food packages. Items such as Cheez-It boxes or cans of Pringles are a sneaky way to divert attention away from your belongings. If someone just so happens to creep by your spot, it's unlikely they'll grab a snack as they look for valuables to steal.

Someone to Watch Your Belongings

If you don't have acquaintances nearby, find someone who appears trustworthy to watch over your things — families with children may be a safe option. This isn't an ideal tactic, since it requires you to have a bit of trust in human kindness from a complete stranger. Or you could possibly leave belongings at a restaurant or bar you frequent.



Spending vacation at the beach doesn't need to be stressful. The risk will always be there, but these options can reduce the chances of someone stealing your valuables and can ease your mind while you relax.

What to Do When Police Don't Show AFTER CALLING 911

As many know, one of the first things to do when you're in an auto accident is call the police to the scene. But in some cases, they take too long or fail to show up to the accident altogether. This isn't uncommon, but have you ever wondered what you are supposed to do if this is the case? Here are the next steps to take.

When should you report the accident?

According to Florida Statute 316.056, a driver should report their accident if it results in injury, death, or property damage of at least \$500. In that case, if you fail to report the accident, you will be charged with a nonmoving violation.

Why would the police not come?

According to the National Emergency Number Agency, roughly 240 million 911 calls are made in the U.S. each year, which is about 658,000 calls a day. With this number of emergencies, it is clear that there are several genuine reasons why the police would fail to show up at an accident scene.

It is important to note that the police are less likely to show up at an accident scene when it is minor or involves no injury or damages. Some people do call a separate nonemergency number, but depending on various things like available resources, the police can still fail to show up, even if the accident is major that involves substantial damages or serious injuries.

What should you do if the police don't show up?

Typically, when an officer shows up at the scene, they will fill out an accident report and document the scene. Fortunately, in Florida, if the police don't come, you are allowed to self-report your accident in lieu of a law enforcement officer completing the accident report.

If you plan to file a personal injury claim, gather as much evidence as you can to help recover the compensation you deserve and prove liability after you file. Consider gathering the following:

- Images or video of vehicle damage, injuries, skid marks, weather/road conditions, and traffic signals
- Witness statements and/or contact information
- Contact information, names, driver's license, insurance information, and any other pertinent information from other parties involved in the accident

It is crucial to have a skilled attorney by your side, especially if the police fail to show up at the scene of your accident. Contact us at (239) 649-8050 so that our car accident attorneys at the Law Offices of Marc L. Shapiro can help.





'Exceeding Expectations'

WHAT OUR CLIENTS ARE SAYING

"I want to let everyone know that my case was not an easy one, but the outcome surpassed even my expectations. From the beginning of my ordeal of nearly three years, the staff has been there 100% of the time for any questions or updates. Shoutouts to Shawn, Iris, Jessica, and especially Randall for being my point-man in leading the case from the beginning to a favorable end."

—M.M.

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FROZEN MARGARITA MOUSSE

Inspired by [TasteOfHome.com](https://www.tasteofhome.com)

Ingredients

- 1 14-oz can sweetened condensed milk
- 1/2 cup margarita mix
- 2 tbsp sugar, divided
- 1 1/2 tsp lime zest, grated
- 1 tbsp lime juice
- 5 drops green food coloring (optional)
- 1 8-oz carton frozen whipped topping
- 1/3 cup finely crushed pretzels
- 4 tsp butter, melted
- Lime slices

Directions

1. Allow whipped topping to thaw.
2. In a medium-size bowl, combine the sweetened condensed milk, margarita mix, 1 tbsp of sugar, lime zest, and lime juice. Add food coloring, if desired.
3. Using a spoon or spatula, fold in the whipped topping.
4. Freeze mixture until firm, about 4–6 hours.
5. In a small bowl, combine pretzels, 1 tbsp of sugar, and butter.
6. Spoon the lime mixture into margarita glasses and add the pretzel topping. Serve with lime slices.

Word Search

S	A	N	D	W	I	C	H	Q	Q	T	E	V	K	R
F	R	I	E	N	D	S	H	I	P	H	R	A	W	U
G	Q	S	N	L	U	Q	S	J	N	E	U	C	O	A
F	L	G	W	M	C	C	Y	O	Q	A	T	A	G	Y
V	T	A	K	I	P	Y	I	T	Q	T	N	T	T	P
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V	P	N	M	X	O	F	I	J	O	L	D	N	F	P
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L	D	C	T	V	U	N	B	D	A	D	N	F	L	R
W	O	L	L	A	M	H	S	R	A	M	P	F	L	K

ADVENTURE
DOGS
FRIENDSHIP
GLADIOLUS

HEAT
MARSHMALLOW
MOTORCYCLE
MUGGY

RELAXATION
SANDWICH
SWIMMING
VACATION



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Inside

My Advice for Balancing School and Life
Page 1

Keep Your Valuables Safe on the Beach

Your Next Steps After a Florida Auto
Accident
Page 2

What Our Clients Are Saying

Frozen Margarita Mousse
Page 3

4 Reasons to Start Golfing This Summer
Page 4



Tee Off This Summer

4 GREAT BENEFITS OF GOLF

Golf is an enjoyable sport anyone can participate in regardless of experience, ability, and age. There's nothing quite like teeing off on the first hole

after a difficult week of work. Though it can certainly be frustrating at times, golf is a fun sport with many amazing perks. Reading the following benefits will make you want to head to your local course, even if you're not a regular golfer.

It's great exercise.

Playing a full 18 holes of golf can be exhausting and for good reason. Swinging a golf club works your forearms, core, shoulders, and back muscles. If you choose to walk the course, you'll be getting in a great workout as the average course length is about 4 miles. You can also carry your golf bag for an even better workout.

It builds character.

It doesn't matter if you're a seasoned golfer or on the course for the first time, you are not going to have a perfect round. You may miss a putt or end up in the sand trap, but you decide how you react to the situation. You can get mad and potentially play worse or understand that everything is not always going to work out in golf. That lesson can even be applied to your everyday life.

It'll draw you outside.

Most of us can use some additional time outdoors, and golf provides the perfect opportunity. Between rolling hills, picturesque ponds, and lush trees, the golf course is a beautiful setting. Even if you're playing poorly, you can still enjoy being outside for a few hours out of your day.

It's fun for the entire family.

Golf isn't just for businessmen. Anyone can find enjoyment in the game. It can be a great weekend activity for the entire family or the perfect bonding experience between relatives. There are par 3 courses across the country that offer an easier experience for new golfers, and you can always play nine holes instead of 18 to cut down on time and conserve energy.